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Title:Need to check the incidence of children missing and put in place a robust mechanism to trace them.

SHRI RABINDRA KUMAR JENA (BALASORE): I would like to draw the attention of the Government towards a persistent problem in our society i.e. India's missing children. The data from the Ministry of Home Affairs shows that 3.25 lakh children went missing between 2011 and June 2014. Yet the National Crime Records Bureau's (NCRB) All India Directory shows a much lesser number. Just in the year 2014, according to the National Crime Records Bureau data, 1290 children -328 boys and 962 girls- have been reported missing. Out of these, 39 children- 10 boys and 29 girls- have been reported missing from Odisha. Out of this, only 7 could be traced or found. Organisations like Bachpan Bachao Andolan claim that the number of such cases recorded with the government is significantly lower than the actual number of children missing in the country. It is an established fact that human trafficking; the proliferation of begging and prostitution rackets are related to the problem of children going missing in the country and this too is visible in the NCRB data.

The National Human Rights Commission Action Research on Missing Persons in 2003 had recommended that a National Centre for Missing and Exploited Children (NACMEC) should be set up. This has been cited in several documents by the Ministry of Women and Child Development as well, but no action in this regard has been taken. While the Government Portal of "Track Child" is much appreciated, there needs to be coordination between the data at the web portal and that present with NCRB, which is currently absent. Between 2011 and June 2014, 148115 children still remain untraced or never found again, in government records. I urge the Government to take steps to ensure better coordination between states in this regard and a more robust mechanism to check such incidents in the country.